

Message Text

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13
ACTION NEA-10

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R 150525Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6255
INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
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C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 7153

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, PK, ID,
SUBJECT: VISIT OF INDONESIAN FORMIN

SUMMARY: THE VISIT OF INDONESIAN FORMIN ADAM MALIK TO KARACHI JULY 9-11 HAD LITTLE IN THE WAY OF CONCRETE RESULTS BUT AS SEEN BY PAKISTAN STRENGTHENED THE ALREADY FRIENDLY TIES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. BHUTTO ACCEPTED SUHARTO'S INVITATION TO VISIT INDONESIA. END SUMMARY

1. MFA DIRGEN (EAST ASIA) SHAHARYJ KHAN TOLD EMB JULY 13 THAT MALIK'S VISIT WAS A SUCCESS. HELD IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE EIGHTH MINISTERIAL MEETING OF THE INDONESIAN-PAKISTAN ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL COOPERATION COMMISSION (IPECC), THE OSTENSIBLE REASON FOR THE VISIT WAS TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL MATTERS, BUT THE REAL BENEFITS WERE NOT SO MUCH THESE AS POLITICAL: THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE VIEWS AND STRENGTHEN BILATERAL TIES. ACCORDING TO KHAN, PM BHUTTO AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE AZIZ AHMED EACH HAD LONG PRIVATE TALKS WITH MALIK ON PROBLEMS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE REGIONS AND THE WORLD IN GENERAL.

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2. BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES THEMSELVES, NO SIGNIFICANT

PROBLEM EXISTS, KHAN SAID. BOTH SIDES EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT THAT BILATERAL TRADE REMAINED AT A LOW LEVEL BUT HOPED TRADE WOULD GROW WITH CONTEMPLATED SALES OF PAKISTANI RICE TO INDONESIA AND INDONESIAN PALM OIL TO PAKISTAN. ACCORDING TO KHAN, THE ONLY POTENTIAL CLOUD IN THE OTHERWISE EXCELLENT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES HAD BEEN PAKISTAN'S STANCE IN THE UN IN FAVOR OF TIMOR SELF DETERMINATION BUT THE PAK SIDE DID NOT RE-EMPHASIZE THIS POINT NOR DID THE INDONESIANS COMPLAIN. ON A MORE POSITIVE VOTE, THE GOP WAS PLEASED TO OBTAIN MALIK'S ENDORSEMENT OF BHUTTO'S THIRD WORLD ECONOMIC SUMMIT PROPOSAL. PM BHUTTO HOSTED A DINNER IN HONOR OF MALIK WHICH KHAN SAID WAS MEANT TO SIGNAL PAKISTAN'S SPECIAL ESTEEM FOR INDONESIA.

3. ACCORDING TO KHAN, THE PRINCIPAL OUTCOME OF THE VISIT WAS PERHAPS PRESIDENT SUHARTO'S INVITATION TO BHUTTO TO PAY A STATE VISIT TO INDONESIA. BHUTTO ACCEPTED BUT NO TIME WAS FIXED FOR THE TRIP. KHAN SPECULATED THAT IT WOULD NOT OCCUR UNTIL AFTER THE PAKISTAN ELECTIONS.

4. ASKED ABOUT THE COMMUNIQUE'S VAGUE REFERENCE TO COMMERCIAL JOINT VENTURES, KHAN SAID THAT ALL THAT WAS AGREED TO WAS TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES. IT WAS HIS PERSONAL GUESS THAT NOTHING CONCRETE WOULD EMERGE FOR SOME YEARS. WHEN QUESTIONED ABOUT LAST YEARS PRESS REPORTS, AFTER THE SEVENTH IPECC MEETING IN JAKARTA, THAT BOTH COUNTRIES MIGHT COLLABORATE IN AIRCRAFT MANUFACTURE, KHAN RESPONDED THAT THAT PROPOSAL HAD BEEN DROPPED.
BYROADE

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